

Local Government Climate Roadmap

PARALLEL PROCESS TO THE UN CLIMATE ROADMAP

Status Report

June 2009

The Local Government Climate Roadmap is a joint process of Local Government Associations which is accompanying international climate negotiations from COP 13 in Bali to COP 15 in Copenhagen.

The process is facilitated by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, and the global partners of the process are United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), Metropolis, C40 Cities - Climate Leadership Group, and the World Mayors Council on Climate Change (WMCCC), in cooperation with and with support from international, regional and national partners.

We, Cities and Local Governments

- Represent half of the world's population
- Are where 80% of the energy is consumed
- Implement strong local climate actions
- Commit to ambitious reduction targets
- Mobilise citizens around the globe
- Offer national – local partnership to limit global warming

**Strong and
Comprehensive
Post-2012
Global Climate
Agreement**

**Copenhagen
2009**
UNFCCC COP 15

**Poznan
2008**
UNFCCC COP 14

**Bali
2007**
UNFCCC COP 13

request National Governments to

- Support strong local climate practices
- Provide enabling regulations and conditions
- Empower cities – provide capacities and resources
- Recognise local action in national climate strategies
- Strengthen local action through easier access to funding

Local Governments at COP13, COP 14 and COP15

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol do not recognise the fact that cities, local or regional governments are relevant actors with national governments to help combat climate change.

However, today more than 50% of the world's population lives in urban areas, where up to 80% of all energy is consumed. By 2030, two thirds of humanity will live in cities. Fast growing cities in developing countries are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

If genuinely empowered and resourced, local governments have the potential to achieve substantial emission reductions in their local areas. Thus, they can be essential actors/partners with national governments to help ensure that global and ambitious targets of greenhouse gas emission reductions are being met.

Therefore, global local government associations take up the upcoming opportunity of a new international climate deal and the consequent agreement-seeking process, striving for the necessary empowerment and recognition of cities and local governments in a UN post-2012 framework on climate change.

With this main objective, LGs were present in Bali and Poznan, on the occasion of the 13th and 14th Sessions of the Conference of the Parties (COP13 and COP 14) respectively, and will be present in Copenhagen during COP 15.

At COP 13 in Bali, the Local Government Climate Roadmap was launched. The Roadmap is a joint process of Local Government Associations which accompanies the international climate negotiations until COP 15.

There are five constituencies of observer organisations which are admitted to the sessions of the UNFCCC, one of them is "Local Governments and Municipal Authorities". LGs have the opportunity to address COP delegates on behalf of Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) during the high level segment.

In Bali, Mayor Bloomberg of New York City and Lady Mayor Dieckman of the City of Bonn participated in the COP 13 high level segment. In Poznan, Municipal Commissioner of Thane, India, Mr Nadkumar Jantre addressed COP 14 delegates, requesting them to recognise the key role of LGs in climate protection and offering a partnership towards a comprehensive post-2012 climate agreement.

This is a process in continuous progress to which all interested local governments are invited to participate. Meetings such as the Local Government Climate Session (LGCS) in Poznan, the Local Government Climate Change Leadership Summit from 2-4 June in Copenhagen, the Copenhagen Climate Summit of Mayors from 15-17 December in Copenhagen and the preparatory meetings to COP 15 during 2009 are used to share, further develop, enrich and present local government positions.



"The evidence of escalating climate change is indisputable and the world's cities which account for 80% of humanity's production of greenhouse gases, recognize that inaction is not an option.

The Mayors of the world's cities are the great pragmatists on the world's stage. Results, not ideology, are what matter to us."

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg of New York City, USA addressing the United Nations Climate Change Conference, Bali, 14 December 2007

How to get involved

Mobilisation of local governments towards a strong, comprehensive and global post-2012 climate agreement is the multitude of activities on a local, national, regional and global level which use the public attention on global warming and the current international negotiation process to advance local action as a key contribution to global climate protection.

Mobilisation within the Local Government Climate Roadmap means in parallel:

- On a **local level**: local and regional governments are encouraged, motivated and supported to increase their own activities for local climate mitigation and adaptation. These activities can follow the many good examples on energy saving, promotion of renewable energy, sustainable mobility, climate action planning etc. They directly improve the local situation by providing benefits to population and economy, such as energy security, saving costs, clean air, job creation and proof commitment.
- On a **national level**: local and regional governments are brought together not only for exchange but also for joint interaction with the national governments. This interaction aims at
 - a) getting supportive framework conditions, such as energy saving regulations and laws, feed-in-tariffs, national climate programs for cities and towns, access to funding and investments,
 - b) starting or accelerating a dialogue towards local-national climate action programs,
 - c) requesting the national government to support a strong, comprehensive and global post-2012 climate agreement and respective implementation mechanisms.
- On a **regional level**: local and regional governments from various countries are supported to exchange and to jointly lobby regional bodies, such as the European Commission.
- On a **global level**: local and regional governments from all over the world are informed about the climate negotiations and the impacts on their local work, they are empowered to share the debate and bring in their interests and positions. Their cooperation towards COP 15 is organised because one strong voice of local governments count more than many gentle voices.

Global LG Associations such as UCLG and ICLEI, and many more regional and national networks organise this mobilisation process through:

Information: LG around the world are informed through websites, briefing sheets, background information on the negotiation themes, successful examples of local climate actions, and how they can be a part of the process.

International exchange and partnerships: Learning from others is key to success. The international climate negotiations challenge local actors to also liaise and to cooperate with other groups, such as NGOs, science, trade unions, business, youth and many more. International exchange also includes learning how local governments have coped with their nations to foster local-national dialogues.

Positions: Reflecting what the Parties discuss, LG build their opinions and positions through Symposia, workshops and conferences. So far, the draft text for a COP Decision on Cities, Local Authorities and Climate Change is a result of this process. Position finding includes further reflection of the different circumstances in developed and developing countries, to discuss “climate justice” among local governments, and to define answers and own concepts for the energy and climate challenges.

Commitments: local government representatives can express their commitment by signing up to the World Mayors & Local Governments Climate Protection Agreement and equivalent regional processes, such as the European Covenant of Mayors.

Public attention: Within a negotiation process, media and the public can be strong allies. Mobilisation does include getting their attention – through good stories and convincing arguments.

Local Government Delegations to COP 15: If local and regional governments want to be heard in the concert of interests towards a post-2012 climate agreement, they need to be present when the negotiations take part. During 2009, local governments are represented at the pre-events (see pages 4-5) to point their positions. At COP 15 in Copenhagen in December 2009, many local leaders will gather to demonstrate to their own national governments and to the public that they request solutions to limit global warming to prevent their cities and towns from suffering severe problems. In some countries, local leaders will request their governments to be part of the official national delegation.

Advocacy in Poznan at COP 14

Local Government Climate Sessions, Poznan, Poland, 9-11 December 2008

The Local Government Climate Sessions (LGCS) took place at the 2008 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Poznan, Poland. The Sessions were organised in conjunction with the associated partners of the Local Government Climate Roadmap.

With over 430 participants, the local government delegation was one of the biggest delegations at COP 14.

Outcomes:

The main message of the LGCS was that cities and local governments around the globe have a long track record of voluntary local climate actions. Thus, nations should recognise and build upon these local contributions by building strategic climate partnerships with their local governments. Such national-local climate partnerships should include empowerment, capacities, resources and easier access to funding, as well as enabling regulations and framework conditions for the local level.

As part of the main objective of the Local Government Climate Sessions in Poznan, the draft text of the COP Decision on “Cities, Local Authorities and Climate Change” (see page 11) was presented, discussed and advocated. The presentations used during the Local Government Climate Sessions in Poznan are available under:

www.iclei.org/poznan2008

Page 6 to 9 summarise the discussions in Poznan about the most relevant topics for LG in the negotiation process:

- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Carbon Trading
- Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM)

The representatives of national governments, UN agencies and international organisations were informed about the draft text of the COP Decision on “Cities, Local Authorities and Climate Change” (see page 11). Furthermore, they were also key speakers at the Local Government Climate Sessions in Poznan.

- Yvo de Boer, Executive Secretary of UNFCCC and the Chairs of AWGLCA and AWGKP
- Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, Chair of the IPCC
- Penny Wong, Minister for Climate Change, Australia
- Juan Elvira, Minister for the Environment, Mexico
- Evelyne Huytebroeck, Minister for Environment, Energy and Water, Region of Capital Brussels, Belgium and representative for Belgium
- Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Sri Lanka
- Brice Lalonde, Ambassador for Climate Change, France, EU Presidency
- Prof. Hironori Hamanaka, Chair, Board of Directors, IGES / Keio University and former Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Japan
- Professor Jerzy Buzek, former Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland and Member of the European Parliament
- Norbert Gorissen, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany, Department of International Cooperation
- Alicia Montalvo, General Director, Spanish Climate Change Office, Ministry of Environment, Spain
- Pedro Ballesteros, Principal Administrator, Unit D3, DG TREN, European Commission
- Mrs Sulistyowati, Assistant Deputy for Climate Change Impact Control, Ministry of Environment, Indonesia
- Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-Habitat
- Lamia Kamal-Chaoui, Head Urban Development Programme, OECD
- Sylvie Lemmet, Director of the UNEP Division of Technology, Industry and Economics.

Advocacy in 2009

Bonn Climate Change Talks, 24 March - 8 April 2009

The work that had started at the Local Government Climate Sessions in Poznan was intensively continued at the Climate Change Talks in Bonn, mainly through seeking direct discussions with Parties. Whereas in Poznan, the main objective had been to present the LG Climate Roadmap and the draft text for a COP decision on the role of Cities, Local Authorities and Climate Change, the advocacy process during the Bonn Climate Change Talks focussed on identifying nations which are open for discussions within further negotiations.

There was also a Local Government Municipal Authorities (LGMA) side event which was centred around the LG Climate Roadmap and the draft text for a COP decision. The side event was one of the few to benefit from UNFCCC Secretariat webcasting and was attended by a number of Party delegates.

In preparation for the advocacy work during the Climate Change Talks, the submissions of Parties (national governments) and observer organisations that make a reference to “Local Actions” were analysed and used as a central element to increase awareness of Parties. In addition, the draft COP decision was distributed at the EU Coordination Meeting and crucial bilateral meetings were held with various Parties.

For further information and to watch the video webcast, please visit

www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap

“(…) and the large part of the fight against climate change, will be won through actions by citizens, businesses and local governments, in the towns and cities that you represent.”

Yvo de Boer, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, addressing Local Government representatives at the Local Government Climate Sessions, 10 December 2008



“It is very important that we build our efforts not in opposition to what national governments are doing, but rather as an effort to cooperate, to engage in a dialogue, to enhance dialogue and, to enhance the level of cooperation”

Flavio Goldman, Deputy-Secretary, International Relations, Sao Paulo, Brazil, at the Local Government Climate Sessions, 10 December 2008

Mitigation

Main information and arguments presented during LGCS at COP 14, December 2008:

Climate mitigation requires action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to enhance sinks (natural reservoirs that absorb greenhouse gases such as forests and oceans) with the aim of reducing the extent of global warming.

Based on scenarios of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the leading, independent body to review science on climate change, industrialised nations will need to cut their emissions steeply to achieve a reduction of 50% over 2000 levels by 2050 which would stabilise rising temperatures between 2 – 2.4 °C. Given their historic responsibility and economic capabilities, these countries must continue to take the lead in mitigation.

However, a future international climate change regime also requires the engagement of developing countries, which may need incentives to limit their emissions while safeguarding economic development and poverty eradication.

At a local government level, a number of human activities that are typically facilitated directly within the urban context - such as energy saving and urban transport - are major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, and to climate change. Therefore, mitigation will massively influence patterns of use in the urban context, making it - at a very practical level - a significant urban activity.

Local governments worldwide have undertaken – on a voluntary basis - considerable measures to combat climate change and have committed to ambitious greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

Based on these experiences, local governments are therefore unique partners with national governments in a joint ambition to limit global warming with effective legislation, planning, policies and measures at each appropriate authority level.

Key positions:

- National actions which aim at limiting global warming should ensure a strong recognition and empowerment of, as well as a partnership with their local governments. Furthermore, they should include enabling structures and necessary resources to ensure that local climate action is a consistent part of national climate strategies.
- Any future multilateral agreement on implementation mechanisms, decisions or agreed efforts on limiting global warming and combating climate change must therefore highlight the need for partnership between national and local governments in order to ensure consistent planning and implementation at the appropriate authority level.

Status of discussions:

The global Local Government Climate Roadmap partners and their associated regional or national partners agreed on a draft text for a COP decision on cities, local authorities and climate (see page 9) which was officially presented at the Local Government Climate Sessions in Poznan, Poland.

This draft text was presented by Municipal Commissioner of Thane, India, Mr Nadkumar Jantre, to the UN Climate Change Conference Plenary (COP14) on 12 December 2008, and was also submitted formally within the UNFCCC process.

Next Steps:

Advocacy efforts will be undertaken throughout 2009 towards Parties to the UNFCCC with a view to instigate discussion(s) which will hopefully lead to the adoption of the mentioned positions within a COP Decision at COP15. To this end, bilateral meetings will be organised with Parties at the COP15 pre-events, concretely at the Climate Change Talks in Bonn in April and June, and in Bangkok in September 2009. Furthermore, there will be decentralised advocacy efforts by local governments at the respective national and regional level.

The draft COP decision will also be intensively discussed with Ministers at the Local Government Climate Leadership Summit that will take place 2-4 June 2009 in Copenhagen.

Adaptation

Main information and arguments presented during LGCS at COP 14, December 2008

The call for adaptation results from a clear understanding that a degree of global warming is unavoidable. Cities around the globe have started to assess their vulnerabilities and are adapting to these. The degree of climate change humanity will have to adapt to will be determined by the successful approval of an internationally agreed deal to combat climate change in Copenhagen, and by the effectiveness of that agreement over time in mitigating global warming.

From a local government perspective, adaptation needs are highest if there are potential threats to inhabitants, nature and infrastructure in human settlements. Wherever there is a risk of climate change having an impact on human settlement and eco-systems, adaptation is required.

The work of the IPCC shows that almost no region will be spared a degree of impact. Thus, adaptation will be an activity which will be nearly universally relevant to all local governments, especially in coastal regions, regions threatened by desertification, disease or drought, as well as mountainous areas.

Some of the adaptation challenges must be addressed by LGs whose existing capacities need to be examined, particularly regarding land use planning, community health, natural disaster management and infrastructure development.

Key positions:

- Local governments worldwide should be included in national and international risk prevention, as well as resilience planning. They need to have access to any international or national corresponding structures, mechanisms and funding aimed at adapting to climate change.
- National governments should create enabling structures for local governments and provide them with the necessary capacities, information and resources to analyse, plan and implement the required adaptation measures at the local level.

Status of discussions:

Adaptation is an area where substantial resources and investments will need to be deployed at the international, national and local level and where at the same time, uncertainties about projected impacts may be high. National Governments have done some work on adaptation, as well as some LGs. There is a need to build on these initial experiences and increase specific knowledge now.

Penny Wong, Minister for Climate Change and Water of Australia, stated that in her country, some local communities have been ahead of governments and sometimes even first in terms of understanding the reality of climate change, but moreover in terms of responding to it. Examples of strong, local climate actions are a cause for optimism. Therefore, the role of national governments should be to foster those communities, support them, and resource, using the opportunities national governments have.

Next Steps:

Advocacy efforts will be undertaken throughout 2009 towards Parties of UNFCCC. In particular, a detailed screening of their proposals will be undertaken, regarding the inclusion of the important role and capacity increase of local governments. For this purpose, those parts of the post-2012 agreement which are dedicated to adaptation should make a reference to local governments and be included in national and international risk prevention and resilience planning. In addition, local governments must have access to international or national funding mechanisms. To this end, bilateral meetings will be organised with Parties at the COP15 pre-events (Climate Change Talks in Bonn in April and June, and in Bangkok in September 2009).

Main information and arguments presented during LGCS at COP 14, December 2008:

Emission trading, as set out in Article 17 of the Kyoto Protocol, allows countries that have emission units to spare – emissions permitted to them but not “used” - to sell this excess capacity to countries that are over their targets. Thus, a new commodity is created in the form of emission reductions or removals. The idea is that trading of permits facilitates the most efficient investment in carbon reduction across all the participants in a scheme.

The USA has a number of carbon trading schemes, the most recent is the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. At a European level, the EU has been running the Emissions Trading Scheme (EU-ETS) for big emitters of carbon dioxide and is currently revising it. In the UK, the national government has just approved the Climate Change Bill which allows carbon trading with smaller organisations. The threshold for entry is 6,000 Megawatt hours per annum. This lower threshold means that large local authorities are now included in a mandatory carbon trading scheme. It can be argued that if any country shall reach the target of an 80% emissions reduction (on 1990 levels), most organisations in the public sector should be involved in a dramatic carbon reduction scheme and that trading is one of the strategies which are likely to deliver such a radical change.

However, there are significant problems concerning implementation, including the quality of available data, the readiness of the public sector to trade, and the role of offsetting. In the UK, the Local Government Information Unit (LGIU) has been running Carbon Trading Councils with 34 Local Authorities learning in a virtual market. The key messages so far have been the need for smart meters, robust strategic carbon reduction plans to support trading strategies, as well as the need for a space to innovate and find new funding sources.

Carbon trading can be seen as a useful tool for entities in developed countries to off-set part of their emissions as an additional activity to their own climate change mitigation actions. This is also relevant for local governments, and several programmes were launched, e.g. in Japan. However, more of those schemes that specifically address LGs are needed to test the respective mechanisms, as well as to foster direct city-to-city cooperation.

Key positions:

- Local governments play an important role in promoting climate change mitigation and encouraging local businesses to reduce emissions. They are increasingly expected to lead by setting examples, implying that if carbon trading was to become the dominant model, local governments across the world should be actively participating. However, it is probably not appropriate for small organisations like local governments to be involved in large schemes such as EU-ETS. Instead, more local, national or regional schemes should be established. Such schemes will allow local governments to fulfil a dual role, as a facilitator and a participant. While promoting the local level, it should be possible for organisations to connect to the global challenge through carbon permits which can be exchanged through national and international schemes.

Status of discussions:

LG have a role in promoting / facilitating carbon trading within their communities and first experiences are being made. How should their participation be organised? Can benefits be documented? Should they be trading in national, regional or even local schemes and would a mix of levels be useful?

If local offsetting is allowed - how do we facilitate this? What mechanisms can help to permit the connection to schemes, and what is the nature of this connection?

Next Steps:

Advocacy efforts will be undertaken throughout 2009 towards Parties of UNFCCC. In particular, a detailed screening of their proposals in regard to options for the inclusion of local governments in national and international carbon trading schemes will be undertaken. To this end, bilateral meetings will be organised with Parties at the COP15 pre-events (Climate Change Talks in Bonn in April and June, and in Bangkok in September). The involvement of LG in carbon trading schemes will be an ongoing debate during 2009.

Clean Development Mechanisms

Main information and arguments presented during LGCS at COP 14, December 2008:ΛΛΛΛΛ

The Stern Review suggests that an investment of 1% of global GDP is required to mitigate the effects of climate change. Failure to do so would risk a recession worth up to 20% of global GDP.

In addition, the possible contributions of countries to climate change and their capacity to prevent and cope with its consequences vary enormously. Therefore, the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol foresee financial assistance from Parties with more resources to those less endowed and more vulnerable. Developed country Parties (Annex II Parties) shall provide financial resources to assist developing countries to implement the Convention. To facilitate this, the Convention established financial mechanisms which provide funds to developing countries such as the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

CDM projects are not distributed equally around the world. China, India and Brazil make up 67% of the projects. One of the reasons for this is that the certification costs related to the CDM projects are very high and that some small countries, as well as local governments, cannot afford those costs.

CDM projects are market-based mechanisms, so that private companies have and are willing to play a role. Part of the complex system of CDM implementation is that every CDM project has to be approved by a national authority. Thus, it is not possible for a LG to submit a CDM project directly to the Executive Board of the CDM. Instead, there must be coordination with the national government. In Brazil, this coordination was very positive, inter alia because LGs benefited from the advice to make projects adequate to CDM rule which was given by the National Authority or the Ministry in charge.

While the partnership between local and national governments is crucial for the successful implementation of the project, the partnership between LGs and private companies cannot be neglected. Private companies are needed in this process since there is an initial investment needed to start the project. Therefore, the share of the benefit at the end of the project should be negotiated in advance. Usually the private company gets most of the profit because it makes higher investments. Thus, LGs should negotiate intensively with the private partner.

The benefits are obtained after the award of the Certified Emission Reductions (CERs). The revenue obtained by LGs should be invested in LG activities related to the population affected by this kind of project.

The key messages are that for successful implementation, the CDM project must be well prepared, a good relationship between the LG and the national government is necessary, as well as a good public-private partnership.

Key positions:

- Hosting CDM projects, local governments and the industries they host are likely to be significant recipients of such funding in future, both for mitigation and adaptation. As such, local governments must have a clear understanding of the financing mechanisms as they develop, and should be given direct access to these.
- Local governments should be pushing hard for a 'bridging agreement' for post-2012 CDM projects, or investment will be increasingly pushed towards projects which provide short-term returns at the expense of projects which provide sustainable reductions in the long term.

Status of discussions:

There is a need for the evaluation of CDM projects at a local level. Furthermore, based on existing experiences with CDMs, additional mechanisms for financing non-CDM projects in developing countries CDMs are needed, since CDMs projects do not cover the entire reality of developing countries.

Next Steps

Advocacy efforts will be undertaken throughout 2009 towards Parties of UNFCCC. In particular, a detailed screening of their proposals and options will be undertaken, regarding improvement of CDMs and better LG participation. To this end, bilateral meetings will be organised with Parties at the COP15 pre-events (Climate Change Talks in Bonn in April and June, and in Bangkok in September).

Draft Text for a UNFCCC COP Decision

suggested by United Cities and Local Governments, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, World Mayors Council on Climate Change, C40 Climate Leadership Group, Metropolis.

Working Document as of 17 May 2009

OPEN FOR COMMENTS (climate-roadmap@iclei.org, climate-roadmap@cities-localgovernments.org)

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE CITIES, LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Acknowledging that by 2030, two thirds of humanity will live in urban centres where more than 75% of all energy is consumed today;
Understanding that all cities are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, especially fast-growing cities in developing countries;
Recognising that cities, local and regional authorities are critical when it comes to practical climate actions and that if genuinely empowered and resourced, they have the potential to lead emission reductions to ensure that ambitious targets for the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions are met;

Drawing lessons from the success of the implementation of the Rio Agenda through Local Agenda 21 and the successful measures that are being implemented by cities around the world on sustainable energy economy through energy savings and the application of new and existing renewable and high efficiency technologies, to reduce dependence on fossil and nuclear fuels and aim for lowest-carbon options;

Recognising that cities, local and regional authorities play a critical role in designing and implementing energy and infrastructure guidelines, investment promotion, and consumer awareness campaigns, all of which have direct effects on energy consumption, and in particular on water, energy, biodiversity and communication, education, and public awareness;

Welcoming the commitment demonstrated by the World Mayors and Local Governments Climate Protection Agreement by reaffirming the will of local authorities to accept the challenge and co-responsibility to take action to prevent the dangerous effects of climate change;

Noting that while responsibilities for implementation of the Convention rest primarily with the Parties, there are multiple reasons for promoting the engagement of cities, local and regional authorities and fostering collaboration with the global local government associations as key partners to the UNFCCC;

Recalling that the Conference of the Parties on Biodiversity in its 9th meeting adopted the Decision on Cities and Biodiversity, thus recognising in that field the importance of local action globally;

the Parties:

- in accordance with and respecting national constitutions and legislation, recognise the role of cities, local and regional authorities in the development and implementation of National Climate Change Strategies and Action Plans, and shall therefore facilitate the adoption by cities, local and regional authorities of practices that support the implementation of these strategies and action plans, as well as support the consistency between local and regional climate change strategies and action plans with National Strategies and Action Plans;
- are committed to engage with the local and regional authority leadership and/or their local authority associations to provide enabling structures and effective framework conditions for climate cooperation with cities, local and regional authorities;
- shall empower cities, local and regional authorities so that they have the abilities, the capacities and the resources required to take necessary action at the local level and to support the Parties in their efforts to meet the agreed targets as appropriate and to implement local climate mitigation and adaptation strategies;
- shall include local and regional authority delegates in the national delegation to the Conference of the Parties and relevant decision making processes hereafter;

the Conference of the Parties:

- recommends to include the development and implementation of local policies in the agenda of the UNFCCC;
- requests the UNFCCC Secretariat to strengthen cooperation with cities, local and regional authorities.



ASSOCIATED PARTNERS & NETWORKS:



Second Version of the Draft Text of a COP Decision on Cities, Local Authorities and Climate Change. First version presented at the Local Government Climate Sessions in Poznan, Poland, 9-11 December 2008.

Other linguistic versions are available (www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap). Please consider the English Version as the Official Version of this Draft Text of a COP Decision on Cities, Local Authorities and Climate Change.

Projects in support of the Local Government Climate Roadmap - Invitation to join

Local Governments' mobilisation and backing for the development and implementation of a global and comprehensive post-2012 climate change agreement

Several countries in emerging economies have a special relevance for the UNFCCC climate negotiations due to their high population and fast growing CO₂ emissions. Within this project, efforts are made to reach local governments in China, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, and South Africa in order to get informed about and involved in the global climate debate.

With reference to global climate negotiations, LG in these and all other countries are supported in

- On a **local level**: increasing their activities for local climate mitigation and adaptation, also to proof commitment;
- On a **national level**: cooperating with other local governments, advocating for local government positions and interacting with their national governments in preparation of COP 15;
- On a **global level**: raising their voice when developing local positions and introducing them to the negotiation process.

A delegation of selected local government leaders of these countries will attend COP 15 aiming to be part of national delegations.

This project, which is funded by the European Commission (EuropeAid) and the Norwegian government, is a key component of the LG Climate Roadmap as it provides capacities to include emerging economies' perspectives. Regional offices of ICLEI and UCLG sections are mobilising and strengthening local governments and their national networks, also through information, networking and channelling travel funds. With a duration of 20 months, the project will last until May 2010.

For more information, visit www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap

Roadmap of South Asian Cities and Local Governments for the Post 2012 Global Climate Agreement and Actions

This project supports the South Asian LG to understand cities' contribution to carbon emission, to develop regional consensus on local action plans to address climate change issues and to build a network to contribute to the post 2012 international negotiation processes on Climate Change.

The outcome of the project is a City Energy Status Reports and Carbon Emission Inventory generated for about 50 large South Asian cities and a platform for local governments to generate a South Asian consensus on international environmental treaties for the formation of a realistic, robust and durable framework of commitments in the post-2012 period. The project would also develop generic city action plans as a guiding framework for addressing climate change issues in the local context.

For more information, visit www.iclei.org/sa

Networking action to involve Local Governments in the EU and international energy and climate debate (LG Action)

This project is designed to encourage and promote local government (LG) networking on climate protection and sustainable energy through information, mobilisation, positioning and recognition. LGs need to address climate change mitigation and adaptation, energy security and sustainable urban development. Yet effective action requires effective support frameworks - at national and European level. Thus, the project:

- provides information to make LGs aware of their powers for change;
- mobilises LGs by linking them to national, European and international climate protection processes;
- supports positioning by identifying LG needs, develop LG positions, and representing these to the national and EU governments; and
- calls for recognition by providing advocacy on behalf of LGs towards national and EU governments, to recognise the essential role LGs play in the climate and energy debate.

LG Action is coordinated by the European Secretariat of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, with the consortium partners including Local Government Denmark (LGDK), the Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling sustainable Resource management (ACR+), the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) and the Italian LA21 Association (CA21L).

The project is co-funded by the European Commission's Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) Programme. With a duration of 25 months, the project will last until May 2011.

For more information, visit www.iclei-europe.org/lg-action

Key events in 2009 towards COP 15

Pre-events to COP15 in 2009 will be used to offer partnership with national government in combating climate change, as well as to call for improved support and framework conditions from national governments and international actors in the post-2012 phase. Key events include:

- **Local Government Climate Change Leadership Summit, 2-4 June, Copenhagen, Denmark**
For more information, visit www.kl.dk/localclimatesummit
- **Bonn Climate Change Talks, 1-12 June, Bonn, Germany**
For more information, visit www.unfccc.int
- **Climate Change Talks, 28 September – 9 October, Bangkok, Thailand**
For more information, visit www.unfccc.int
- **Copenhagen Climate Summit for Mayors, 7-18 December, Copenhagen, Denmark**
Planned in parallel to COP 15.

Furthermore, a series of national-local dialogue events at the national level has started in many countries, especially in EU-27 and emerging economy countries, in order to disseminate LGs common vision of a strong and comprehensive post-2012 global climate agreement.

For a continuously updated list of future events, please visit www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap

Stay informed & get involved

Find out more about the LG Climate Roadmap and the negotiation process towards COP 15 by visiting our website at www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap where you will have the opportunity to watch or download a 20-minute video which explains the process of the LG Climate Roadmap. Furthermore, you will find briefing sheets with the most important information regarding UNFCCC negotiations, links to other relevant organisations and documents, informative newsbits and much more.

Stay informed about future events and advancements regarding the Roadmap by subscribing to the LG Climate Roadmap Mailing List at www.iclei.org/climate-roadmap/mailling-list-subscription

You will receive continuous updates on the process via our newsletter. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to post relevant information to be disseminated via the mailing list or the newsletter.

Become a partner of the LG Climate Roadmap by contacting us at climate-roadmap@iclei.org or at climate-roadmap@cities-localgovernments.org. Partners can be local governments around the world and their respective associations and networks.

Comments and questions regarding the content of local government positions and the process towards COP 15 are welcome - please write to the Local Government Climate Roadmap Team per mail or E-Mail (address see below).

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